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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION

1937 AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM - - - - - NORTHEAST REGION

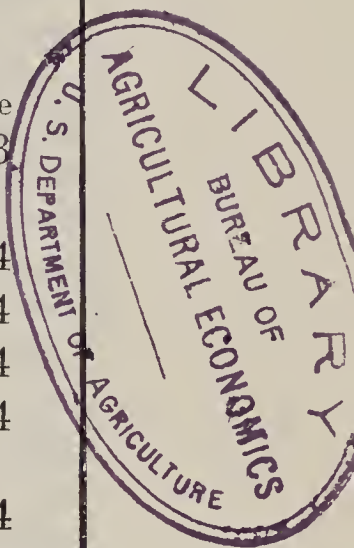
14 WAYS TO CONSERVE SOIL AND
QUALIFY FOR PAYMENTS IN CONNECTICUT

SOIL-BUILDING PRACTICES

1. LIMING CROPLAND AND PASTURE-----	Page 3
2. USING SUPERPHOSPHATE WITH SOIL-CONSERVING CROPS-----	4
3. USING POTASH WHEN SEEDING LEGUMES-----	4
4. SEEDING LEGUMES-----	4
5. SEEDING ALFALFA-----	4
6. GROWING SMALL GRAINS OR ANNUAL GRASSES AS GREEN-MANURE CROPS-----	4
7. GROWING LEGUMES AS GREEN-MANURE CROPS-----	5
8. MULCHING ORCHARDS-----	5
9. PLANTING FOREST TREES-----	5
10. IMPROVING WOODLANDS-----	5
11. BUILDING 2-STRAND WOODLAND PASTURE FENCES---	6
12. BUILDING 3-STRAND WOODLAND PASTURE FENCES---	6
13. FOLLOWING A FARM PLAN-----	6

DIVERSION

14. DIVERTING ACREAGE FROM TOBACCO-----	6
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TO CONNECTICUT FARMERS:

By doing one or more of the 14 things listed above you can qualify for payments under the 1937 agricultural conservation program. The payments will cover part of the out-of-pocket cost of using the practices. This leaflet gives the rate of payment for each practice and tells just what to do to be eligible for a payment. The payments and the rates given are contingent upon Congress making available in 1937 the full amount of money authorized in the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act. If you are particularly interested in any one practice you can find it quickly by turning to the page number listed above opposite the name of the practice.

A top limit will be established for the amount which may be earned by adopting soil-building practices on any one farm. "The Soil-Building Allowance" (p. 2) tells how to figure out what that

allowance will be for your farm. "Applying for Payments" (p. 7) and "Other Points Affecting Payment" (p. 8) also contain information you will need. Terms such as "cropland" and "open noncrop pasture" have definite meanings in this program. Those and other terms are defined on page 9.

If you grow tobacco, you will want to read the section called "Tobacco Diversion", on page 6.

After you find out just how the program will help you carry out your plans for good farming, you will need to discuss your plans with your county agent or committeeman, to make sure that what you intend to do can be approved as good farming for your particular land.

Probably there is nothing unfamiliar in the list of soil-building practices. All of them are suited to conditions in Connecticut and have been encouraged by the State Extension Service. Many successful farmers have been using them for years. Liming, for instance, is needed for sweetening acid soils. The soil on many farms in the State needs either phosphoric acid or potash, or a combination of the two to supply the proper plant food. Turning under green-manure crops enriches the soil.

The national agricultural conservation program aims at conserving and improving national farm resources. The program for Connecticut carries out the principles of the national program through the use of practices especially suited to Connecticut farms. The practices for Connecticut were recommended by county and State committees and approved by the United States Secretary of Agriculture.

All farmers in the State may qualify for soil-building payments. Farmers who raise tobacco also may earn payments for shifting some of their tobacco soil-depleting base acreage from tobacco to soil-conserving crops.

THE SOIL-BUILDING ALLOWANCE

Connecticut farms who properly carry out one or more of the 13 approved soil-building practices will be eligible for soil-building payments within the limits of their soil-building allowances. The soil-building allowance is the total amount which may be earned by adopting soil-building practices on a farm. A farmer may earn all or part of his allowance, depending on the soil-building practices he uses. But he cannot earn more than his allowance, no matter how many practices he uses.

Every farmer not eligible to earn diversion payments will have an allowance of at least \$20, even if the items listed below do not add up to that amount. Diversion farms will have a soil-building allowance of at least \$10, in addition to the diversion payments.

Nondiversion farms.—The following items will be included in determining the soil-building allowance for any farm which does not grow tobacco, or for any farm which has a tobacco soil-depleting base of 5 acres or less, if no application is made for a tobacco-diversion payment:

\$1 for every acre of cropland.

\$1 additional for each acre of cropland in commercial orchards cultivated on the farm on January 1, 1937.

\$1 additional for each acre of cropland on which *only one* crop of commercial vegetables was grown in 1936.

\$2 additional for each acre of cropland on which *two or more* crops of commercial vegetables were grown on the same acreage in 1936.

40 cents for each acre of fenced noncrop open pasture land in excess of one-half the number of acres of cropland on the farm.

Diversion farms.—The following items will be included in determining the soil-building allowance for any farm with a tobacco soil-depleting base of more than 5 acres, or any farm with a smaller tobacco soil-depleting base, if an application is made for a tobacco-diversion payment:

\$1 for each acre of cropland *minus* the number of acres normally in soil-depleting crops, and *plus* the number of acres diverted for payment. A farm's normal soil-depleting acreage will be the general soil-depleting base which was or could have been established in 1936, plus the 1937 tobacco soil-depleting base.

\$1 additional for each acre of cropland in commercial orchards cultivated on the farm on January 1, 1937.

\$1 additional for each acre of cropland on which *only one* crop of commercial vegetables was grown in 1936.

\$2 additional for each acre of cropland on which *two or more* crops of commercial vegetables were grown on the same acreage in 1936.

40 cents for each acre of fenced noncrop open pasture land in excess of one-half of the number of acres of cropland on the farm.

SOIL-BUILDING PRACTICES

A farmer may choose and carry out any one or more of the approved soil-building practices which will help to improve his farm.

If a practice calls for the use of specific materials such as limestone, he may substitute equivalent amounts of any other approved material which serves the same purpose, and still qualify for payment.

Approved soil-building practices for Connecticut this year are these:

LIMING CROPLAND AND PASTURE

Practice No. 1.—RATE OF PAYMENT: In Area A, \$1.50 per 1,000 pounds of ground limestone; in Area B, \$2 per 1,000 pounds of ground limestone.

Applying 1,000 to 6,000 pounds of ground limestone per acre in preparation for seeding; or applying 1,000 to 4,000 pounds of ground limestone per acre to established grasses on pasture or orchard land when applied with 300 pounds of 20 percent superphosphate per acre.

Area A includes the following townships in Fairfield County: Bethel, Brookfield, Danbury, Easton, New Fairfield, Newtown, Redding, Ridgefield, Sherman, Weston, and Wilton; and the following townships in Litchfield County: Bridgewater, Canaan, Colebrook, Cornwall, Goshen, Kent, New Milford, Norfolk, North

Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Torrington, and Winchester. Area B includes all other townships in Fairfield and Litchfield Counties, and all other counties in the State.

Ground limestone is limestone which will analyze at least 80 percent carbonates, 90 percent of which will pass through a 20-mesh sieve and 50 percent of which will pass through a 100-mesh sieve.

USING SUPERPHOSPHATE WITH SOIL-CONSERVING CROPS

Practice No. 2.—RATE OF PAYMENT, 80 cents per 100 pounds.

Applying 100 to 500 pounds of 20 percent superphosphate per acre to established grasses or legumes, or in connection with the seeding of legumes. When superphosphate is applied in connection with a seeding made in a nurse crop which is harvested for grain, the payment will be made only for amounts of 20 percent superphosphate in excess of 160 pounds per acre.

USING POTASH WHEN SEEDING LEGUMES

Practice No. 3.—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$1.50 per 100 pounds.

Applying 100 to 200 pounds of 50 percent muriate of potash per acre in connection with the seeding of legumes.

SEEDING LEGUMES

Practice No. 4.—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$2 per acre.

Seeding hardy northern-grown domestic or Canadian red or any alsike clover, or mixtures containing at least 5 pounds per acre of one or more of the following: alsike, ladino, sweet, white, or hardy northern-grown domestic or Canadian red clover, or verified or certified hardy northern-grown domestic or Canadian alfalfa seed. Seeding shall be made on land prepared by the application of either:

2,000 pounds of ground limestone and 400 pounds of 20 percent superphosphate; or

Ground limestone and superphosphate according to requirements as shown by an approved soil test.

SEEDING ALFALFA

Practice No. 5.—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$3 per acre.

Seeding alfalfa, or mixtures containing at least eight pounds of verified or certified hardy northern-grown domestic or Canadian alfalfa seed per acre, on land prepared by the application of either:

6,000 pounds of ground limestone, 400 pounds of 20 percent superphosphate, and 100 pounds of 50 percent muriate of potash; or

Ground limestone, superphosphate, and potash, according to requirements as shown by an approved soil test.

GROWING SMALL GRAINS OR ANNUAL GRASSES AS GREEN-MANURE CROPS

Practice No. 6.—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$1.50 per acre.

Plowing or disking under small grains, or annual grasses, or any mixture of these with legumes, after they have attained at least 2 months' or 12 inches' growth.

GROWING LEGUMES AS GREEN-MANURE CROPS

Practice No. 7.—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$2.50 per acre.

Plowing or disking under biennial or perennial legumes from which no crop has been harvested and for which no seeding payment will be, or has been, made under this or any previous program, and which have attained at least 2 months' or 12 inches' growth; or annual legumes which have attained such growth.

OTHER POINTS ABOUT USING GREEN-MANURE CROPS

When green-manure crops are turned under on land that normally is used for the production of commercial vegetables, so that at least one crop of commercial vegetables is replaced, the rates of payment for practices no. 6 and no. 7 will be doubled.

When annual grains are clipped green and left on land that normally is used for the production of commercial vegetables, and no crop is removed from the land in 1937, this substitute practice may be used: If the clipped grains are followed by legume crops, specified in practice no. 7, and the legumes are left on the land for the remainder of the 1937 growing season, it will not be necessary to turn under either crop. Clipping the grains takes the place of turning them under, and leaving the legumes on the land takes the place of turning them under. The provision for doubled rates still will apply.

Leaving the entire crop on the land during the winter may be substituted for the plowing or disking under in practices no. 6 or no. 7, if the crop is one that normally is winter-killed.

MULCHING ORCHARDS

Practice No. 8.—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$2 per ton.

Applying to orchards not less than two tons and not more than five tons per acre of mulching material, in addition to leaving in the orchard all materials produced therein during 1937 from grass, legume, green-manure, or cover crops.

PLANTING FOREST TREES

Practice No. 9.—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$10 per acre.

Planting transplanted forest trees of approved varieties at the rate of at least 1,000 trees per acre.

Recommended varieties for planting are:

On well-drained loam:

Soft wood: White pine, red pine,¹ white spruce, Norway spruce, hemlock.

Hard wood: Red oak, white oak, white ash, sugar maple, bass wood, black locust.

On heavy wet soils: Hemlock, white spruce, white ash.

On light, sandy, or gravelly soil: Red pine.¹

Other varieties may be planted if the county committee, following the advice of the State extension forester, approves the selections.

IMPROVING WOODLANDS

Practice No. 10.—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$3 per acre.

Improving the stand of forest trees by cutting weed trees and thinning, or pruning, other trees to develop approximately 100 po-

¹ Red pine not recommended for use in Fairfield and New Haven Counties because of liability to damage by European pine shoot moth.

tential timber trees of desirable species well distributed over an acre of woodland. Operators shall obtain prior approval of the county committee and instructions for carrying out the practice.

BUILDING 2-STRAND WOODLAND PASTURE FENCES

Practice No. 11.—RATE OF PAYMENT, 15 cents per rod.

Constructing a fence consisting of not less than two strands of barbed wire with posts or other suitable supports not more than 1 rod apart, to exclude livestock from farm woodland previously used for pasture.

BUILDING 3-STRAND WOODLAND PASTURE FENCES

Practice No. 12.—RATE OF PAYMENT, 20 cents per rod.

Constructing a fence consisting of not less than three strands of barbed wire with posts or other suitable supports not more than 1 rod apart, for the purpose of excluding livestock from farm woodland previously used for pasture.

FOLLOWING A FARM PLAN

Practice No. 13.—RATE OF PAYMENT: \$10; plus 5 cents for each acre of land mapped; the total payment not to exceed \$25 on any farm.

Developing and carrying out a comprehensive conservation program for the farm. Requirements for payment for this practice include: (a) preparing, in conference with the proper extension or conservation representative, a plan for the use and management of crop and pasture lands, and, in certain cases, woodlands; the plan to be submitted as an integral part of a general farm-management plan for the farm, covering a period of 3 or more years; (b) approval of the plan by the county committee as providing for satisfactory improvement in the economic use and conservation of the land; (c) submitting as background for the plan a map of the farm prepared according to specifications prescribed by the State committee; and (d) making such a start in 1937 in carrying out the plan as is approved by the county committee as satisfactory evidence that it has been seriously adopted as a working program for the farm.

TOBACCO DIVERSION, TYPES 51 AND 52

Payment for diversion.—Payment may be earned for diverting up to 15 percent of a farm's tobacco soil-depleting base, which is the number of acres established for the farm as the acreage normally used for production of types 51 and 52 tobacco. However, payment will be made only for the number of diverted acres matched by the 1937 acreage of soil-conserving crops which is above the farm's soil-conserving base. For each acre so diverted from the tobacco soil-depleting base the payment will be 4 cents a pound times the farm's normal tobacco yield per acre.

Tobacco soil-depleting base.—The 1937 tobacco soil-depleting base for any farm in a county shall be the tobacco soil-depleting base which was or could have been established for such farm under the 1936 agricultural conservation program, subject to any adjustment which will result in equitable bases for all farms in the county for which tobacco bases are established. However, the tobacco soil-

depleting base for any farm shall not be more than twice the acreage of tobacco grown in 1937.

Soil-conserving base.—The soil-conserving base is the difference between the total cropland (excluding commercial orchards and idle land) and the sum of the 1937 tobacco soil-depleting base and the 1936 general soil-depleting base which was or could have been established for the farm.

Deductions for an acreage of tobacco in excess of the 1937 tobacco soil-depleting base.—If the 1937 acreage of tobacco exceeds the 1937 tobacco soil-depleting base, a deduction will be made from any payments which otherwise would be made respecting the farm, for each acre of such excess, at the rate of 4 cents per pound, based on the normal tobacco yield per acre.

SOIL-CONSERVING USE OF LAND

Land devoted to any of the following crops shall be regarded as used for the production of soil-conserving crops, except that any land from which any crop other than a soil-conserving crop is harvested in the same year shall not be regarded as having been used for the production of a soil-conserving crop in such year, except as provided below, and if two or more soil-conserving crops are grown on the same land during any year the acreage of such land counted as soil-conserving shall not exceed the acreage on which such crops are grown.

- Sweet, medium red, mammoth red, alsike, and white clover, and alfalfa;
- Vetch, winter peas, and bur or crimson clover;
- Soybeans, except when harvested for grain or hay;
- Sudan grass, millet, Italian ryegrass, and sorghums, not harvested for grain, hay, or forage;
- Sowed corn and rape, when plowed or disked under;
- Bluegrass, redtop, timothy, orchard grass, and mixtures of any of these;
- Rye, oats, barley, wheat, buckwheat, and grain mixtures, not cut for grain or hay, *provided* a good growth is left on the land or plowed under;
- and
- Forest trees planted on cropland.

However, all the land from which a crop other than soil-conserving is harvested in 1937 and followed by legumes classified above as soil-conserving or perennial grasses (whether seeded in or following such crop) shall be classified as soil-conserving, and all the land on which green-manure crops are seeded following commercial vegetables and plowed under as green-manure after having attained at least a 12-inch or 2 months' growth, shall be classified as soil-conserving.

APPLYING FOR PAYMENT

To be eligible to participate in the 1937 agricultural conservation program a farmer must make out the necessary forms and supply the other necessary information. Forms and information shall be filed with the county committee within time limits established by the state committee with the approval of the Director of the Northeast Division, Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

Payment will be made only upon application on the proper form filed with the county committee within the time fixed by the Secretary of Agriculture, supported by any necessary information regarding farming operations.

An application for payment may be made by any producer who is entitled to receive all or a share of the crops or of the proceeds of the crops, produced on the farm in 1937, or by any producer who incurs all or any part of the expense of soil-building practices carried out on the farm.

OTHER POINTS AFFECTING PAYMENT

RATES OF PAYMENT.—Rates of payment listed in this leaflet may be increased or decreased by not more than 10 percent, depending on how many farmers take part in the program.

APPROVAL REQUIRED.—Payment will be made only if a soil-building practice is in line with generally accepted standards of good farming. For that reason, every farmer who plans to carry out a soil-building practice should first consult with his county committee, to make sure that the practice is suitable to his farm and that the materials and methods he plans to use are up to approved standards.

TIME LIMIT.—Payments under the 1937 program will be made only for practices carried out before December 1, 1937.

NO DUPLICATION OF PAYMENT.—No payment will be made for a practice carried out on any acreage if labor, seed, or other material used in carrying out the practice is furnished free or paid for by a State or Federal agency.

INCREASE IN ACREAGE OF GENERAL SOIL-DEPLETING CROPS.—The Secretary of Agriculture reserves the right to make deductions from payments otherwise earned if, in 1937, a farm's acreage of general soil-depleting crops is in excess of 20 acres and is larger than the acreage of such crops normally grown on the farm. The rate of deduction will be \$12.50 for each acre by which the 1937 acreage exceeds the normal acreage.

ASSOCIATION EXPENSES.—In computing payments, deductions will be made for County Agricultural Conservation Association expenses.

1937 OPERATIONS MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH PROGRAM.—Payments may be withheld if any rotation, cropping system, or other practice which tends to defeat the purpose of the program is adopted in 1937.

No payment will be made for any practice unless it is generally considered to be a good farming practice for the locality.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS.—On any farm where a program is carried out in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service or the Resettlement Administration, payment will be made only for such diversion or for carrying out such soil-building practices as are, prior to performance, approved for the farm by the county committee in accordance with special instructions issued by the Secretary of Agriculture.

DIVISION OF PAYMENTS.—On farms where two or more producers are concerned, the soil-building payment shall be divided among them in proportion to each producer's share of the total expense of carrying out the soil-building practices, according to the facts found by the county committee.

The tobacco diversion payment shall be divided among the persons concerned in the proportion that they share the tobacco, or proceeds of tobacco, grown on the farm.

MEMBERSHIP IN ASSOCIATION

Any person having an interest in the crops or the proceeds of crops produced on any farm in the county in 1937 shall become a member of the County Agricultural Conservation Association of the county whenever any form or information required in connection with the 1937 agricultural conservation program is submitted for the farm in which he is interested, or whenever, in 1937, he attends a meeting called for the purpose of electing committeemen. Any person shall cease to be a member of the association if in 1937 he does not file an application for payment within the time specified by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Each county association shall designate a group of persons to assist in the administration of the 1937 program in the county. That group will be known as the county agricultural conservation committee, or county committee.

DEFINITIONS

CROPLAND is farm land which is tillable and on which at least one crop other than wild hay was harvested or planted for harvest between January 1, 1930, and January 1, 1937, and any other farm land devoted on January 1, 1937, to fruit orchards, vineyards, or cultivated bush fruits other than those abandoned.

COMMERCIAL ORCHARDS means tree fruits, cultivated nut trees, vineyards, or cultivated bush fruits on the farm on January 1, 1937, from which the principal part of the production is normally sold, including also the acreage of young nonbearing orchards from which the principal part of the production will be sold in 1937 or later.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES means vegetables or truck crops (including among others potatoes, sweetpotatoes, melons, cantaloups, and strawberries, but excluding sweet corn for canning and peas for canning) from which the principal part of the production was sold off the farm in 1936.

OPEN NONCROP PASTURE means fenced noncrop pasture land on which the predominant growth is forage suitable for dairy animals, and on which the number or grouping of any trees or shrubs is such that the land could not fairly be considered as woodland. Each 5 acres of such land must be capable of supporting at least one cow or one horse, or the equivalent in smaller animals, during the normal pasture season. Five sheep, five goats, two calves, or two colts are considered the equivalent of one cow or one horse.

